

## 2006 Southeast Deer Study Group Meeting



The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries invites you to attend the 29th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Deer Study Group on February 26-28, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Select Executive Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita hit our state hard, but the Deer Study Meeting will go on. Registration materials are attached along with information about what to see and do in Louisiana. Our major city, New Orleans, will still be recovering but there is plenty of Mardi Gras in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, or Houma.

The theme for the meeting is "Managing Habitats, Herds, Harvest, and Hunters in the 21st Century Landscape. Will 20th Century Tools and Programs Work?" In the preface to his book Game Management, Aldo Leopold writes, "The central thesis of game management is this: game can be restored by the creative use of the same tools which have heretofore destroyed it- axe, plow, cow, fire, and gun." The tools of Leopold have changed. Trees are now cut with a mechanical shear, no-till seed has replaced the need to have a plow, and the hunter no longer has to be in the field with a gun, thanks to advancements in electronic technology. The cow feeds in pastures of exotic grasses rather than on the native grassland species. Chemicals have replaced fire in our forests. Are these advances really producing desirable results? We want you to share with the Study Group your current research and management work concerning habitat, herds, harvest, and hunters.

The Louisiana Association of Professional Biologists has agreed to award additional money for the best student paper and will also award the second place selection. Please follow the guidelines for abstract submission. Scott Durham and Larry Savage will coordinate the selection of abstracts.

The Wildlife Division is working hard to make this an unforgettable meeting. The "throws" (door prizes) are beginning to accumulate! If you have questions call us at 225-765-2346.

Information about the meeting is available on the LDWF Web Site, go to [www.wlf.louisiana.gov](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov), click Wildlife Division, click Deer Program, click on 2006 Deer Study Meeting.

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